Numb. 241

The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

From *Saturday October* 21. to *Tueſday October* 24. 1710.

From my own Apartment, October 23.

A Method of ſpending one's Time agreeably is a Thing ſo little ſtudied, that the common Amuſement of our young Gentlemen (eſpecially of ſuch as are at a Diſtance from thoſe of the firſt Breeding) is Drinking. This Way of Entertainment has Cuſtom of its Side; but as much as it has prevailed, I believe there have been very few Companies that have been guilty of Exceſs this Way, where there have not happened more Accidents which make againſt them for the Continuance of it. It is very common that Events ariſe from a Debauch which are fatal, and always ſuch as are diſagreeable. With all a Man's Reaſon and good Senſe about him, his Tongue is apt to utter Things out of meer Gaiety of Heart which may diſpleaſe his beſt Friends. Who then would truſt himſelf to the Power of Wine, without ſaying more againſt it, than that it raiſes the Imagination, and depreſſes the Judgment. Were there only this ſingle Conſideration, that we are leſs Maſters of our ſelves when we drink in the leaſt Proportion above the Exigencies of Thirſt; I ſay, were this all that could be objected, it were ſufficient to make us abhor this Vice. But we may go on to ſay, that as he who drinks but a little is not Maſter of himſelf, ſo he who drinks much is a Slave to himſelf. As for my Part, I ever eſteemed a Drunkard of all vicious Perſons the moſt vicious: For if our Actions are to be weighed and conſidered according to the Intention of them, what can we think of him who puts himſelf into a Circumſtance wherein he can have no Intention at all, but incapacitates himſelf for the Duties and Offices of Life, by a Suſpenſion of all his Faculties. If a Man conſidered, that he cannot under the Oppreſſion of Drink be a Friend, a Gentleman, a Maſter, or a Subject; that he has ſo long baniſhed himſelf from all that is dear, and given up all that is ſacred to him, he would even then think of a Debauch with Horror: But when he looks ſtill further, and acknowledges, that he is not only expelled out of all the Relations of Life, but alſo liable to offend againſt them all, What Words can expreſs the Terror and Deteſtation he would have of ſuch a Condition? And yet he owns all this of himſelf who ſays he was drunk laſt Night.

As I have all along perſiſted in it, that all the Vicious in general are in a State of Death, ſo I think I may add to the Non-Exiſtence of Drunkards, that they died by their own Hands. He is certainly as guilty of Suicide who periſhes by a ſlow, as he that is diſpatched by an immediate, Poiſon. In my laſt Lucubration I propoſed the general Uſe of Water-gruel, and hinted, that it might not be amiſs at this very Seaſon: But as there are ſome, whoſe Caſes, in Regard to their Families, will not admit of Delay, I have uſed my Intereſt in ſeveral Wards of the City; that the wholeſome Reſtorative abovementioned may be given in Tavern Kitchens to all the Morning's Draught-Men within the Walls when they call for Wine before Noon. For a further Reſtraint and Mark upon ſuch Perſons, I have given Orders, that in all the Offices where Policies are drawn upon Lives, it ſhall be added to the Article which prohibits that the Nominee ſhould croſs the Sea, the Words, *Provided alſo, That the abovementioned* A. B. *ſhall not drink before Dinner during the Term mentioned in this Indenture.*

I am not without Hopes but by this Method I ſhall bring ſome unſizeable Friends of mine into Shape and Breath, as well as others who are languid and conſumptive into Health and Vigour. Moſt of the Self-Murderers whom I yet hinted at, are ſuch as preſerve a certain Regularity in taking their Poiſon, and make it mix pretty well with their Food: But the moſt conſpicuous of thoſe who deſtroy themſelves, are ſuch as in their Youth fall into this Sort of Debauchery, and contract a certain Uneaſineſs of Spirit, which is not to be diverted but by Tippling as often as they can fall into Company in the Day, and conclude with downright Drunkenneſs at Night. Theſe Gentlemen never know the Satisfaction of Youth, but skip the Years of Manhood, and are decrepid ſoon after they are of Age. I was Godfather to one of theſe old Fellows. He is now Three and Thirty, which is the Grand Climacterick of a young Drunkard. I went to viſit the crazy Wretch this Morning, with no other Purpoſe but to rally him under the Pain and Uneaſineſs of being ſober.

But as our Faults are double when they affect others beſides our ſelves, ſo this Vice is ſtill more odious in a married than a ſingle Man. He that is the Husband of a Woman of Honour, and comes Home overloaded with Wine, is ſtill more contemptible in Proportion to the Regard we have to the unhappy Conſort of his Beſtiality. The Imagination cannot ſhape to its ſelf any Thing more monſtrous and unnatural than the Familiarities between Drunkenneſs and Chaſtity. The wretched *Aſtrea*, who is the Perfection of Beauty and Innocence, has long been thus condemned for Life. The Romantick Tales of Virgins devoted to the Jaws of Monſters have nothing in them ſo terrible as the Gift of *Aſtrea* to that Bacchanal.

The Reflection of ſuch a Match as ſpotleſs Innocence with abandoned Lewdneſs, is what puts this Vice in the worſt Figure it can bear with Regard to others; but when it is looked upon with Reſpect only to the Drunkard himſelf, it has Deformities enough to make it diſagreeable, which may be ſummed up in a Word, by allowing, that he who reſigns his Reaſon, is actually guilty of all that he is liable to from the Want of Reaſon.

P. S.

P. S. Among many other Enormities, there are two in the following Letters which I think should be suddenly amended; but since they are Sins of Omission only, I shall not make Remarks upon them till I find the Delinquents persist in their Errors; and the inserting the Letters themselves shall be all their present Admonition.

Mr. *Bickerstaff*, *October* 16.

'SEveral that frequent Divine Service at St. *Paul's*, as well as my self, having with great Satisfaction observed the good Effect which your Animadversion had on an Excess in Performance there; it is requested, that you will take Notice of a contrary Fault, which is the unconcerned Silence, and the motionless Postures of others who come thither. If this Custom prevails, the Congregation will resemble an Audience at a Play-house, or rather a dumb Meeting of Quakers. Your censuring such Church-mutes in the Manner you think fit, may make these Dissenters join with us, out of Fear least you should further animadvert upon their Non-Conformity. According as this succeeds, you shall hear from,

SIR,

Your most humble Servant,

B. B.

Mr. *Bickerstaff*,

'I Was the other Day in Company with a Gentleman, who, in reciting his own Qualifications, concluded every Period with these Words, *The best of any Man in* England. Thus for Example: He kept the best House of any Man in *England*; he understood this, and that, and t'other, the best of any Man in *England*. How harsh and ungrateful soever this Expression might sound to one of my Nation, yet the Gentleman was one whom it no Ways became me to interrupt; but perhaps a new Term put into his By-Words (as they call a Sentence a Man particularly affects) may cure him. I therefore took a Resolution to apply to you, who, I dare say, can easily perswade this Gentleman (whom I cannot believe an Enemy to the Union) to mend his Phrase, and be hereafter the wisest of any Man in *Great Britain*. I am,

SIR,

Your most humble Servant,

Scoto-Britannus.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Whereas Mr. Humphrey Trelooby, *wearing his own Hair, a Pair of Buck-Skin Breeches, a Hunting-Whip, with a new Pair of Spurs, has complained to the Censor, that on* Thursday *last he was defrauded of Half a Crown, under Pretence of a Duty to the Sexton for seeing the Cathedral of St.* Paul, London: *It is hereby ordered, that none hereafter require above Sixpence of any Country Gentleman under the Age of Twenty five for that Liberty; and that all which shall be received above the said Sum of any Person for beholding the Inside of that Sacred Edifice, be forthwith paid to Mr.* John Morphew *for the Use of Mr.* Bickerstaff, *under Pain of further Censure on the abovementioned Extortion.*

Advertisements.

ALL Sorts of fine Silks and Mercery Goods for Blank Lottery Tickets, at 7 l. a Ticket, and Sold as cheap as for Specie, at the Eagle and Child on Ludgate Hill.

AT the GREAT WHEAT-SHEAF painted upon a Copper Plate, next the Bell-Savage-Inn on Ludgate-hill, are Sold all Sorts of rich Foreign Silk, with Gold and Silver Brocades: Likewise plain and flower'd Velvets for Gowns and Petticoats, and Coach Linings; with all Sorts of Silk Morning-Gowns, for Blank Lottery Tickets, at as high a Price as any Person shall give for them, and the abovesaid Goods as cheap as for Specie.

MOrning-Gowns for Men and Women, of Silk, Stuffs, and Callicoe's (being the Goods of Persons that failed) which were to be disposed of at the Olive-Tree and Still, are now to be Sold at the Golden Sugar-Loaf up one Pair of Stairs, over-against the Horse at Charing-Cross; with a fresh Parcel at very low Rates, the Price being set on each Gown.

*** A Treatise, entitled, A perfect Cure for the King's Evil (whether hereditary or accidental) by effectual Alcalious Medicines, faithfully approved by the Experience of 18 Years Practice, and the Testimony of above 400 Patients restored beyond Relapse. By Tho. Fern, Chirurgeon. Giving an exact Account also, how he himself was perfectly cured by the same Medicines, after having languished 11 Years under the same Distemper, and being given over by several eminent Physicians and Surgeons in London. Printed for D. Brown without Temple-Bar, G. Strahan at the Golden Ball in Cornhill, A. Bettsworth at the Red Lion on London-Bridge, C. King in Westminster-Hall, W. Mears near Lincolns-Inn Gate in Chancery-Lane, and at the Author's House in Grange-Court near Lincoln's-Inn. Price 1 s. 6 d. bound, 1 s. stitch'd.

FOR Sale by the Candle, on Friday the 27th Instant, at Lloyd's Coffee-house in Lombard-street, at Five in the Afternoon, 19 Puncheons and 7 Pipes of excellent Coigniac and Bourdeaux French Brandy, genuine, and of the right Flavour, neat and entire, in a Ground Warehouse in the dark Gateway of Galley-Key, between the Custom-House-Key and Tower-Dock: Also 22 Butts and 14 Hhds. of new Mountain dry Malaga Wines, extraordinary good, neat and entire, under the House of Mr. Jeremy Laurye, Apothecary, at the Pestle and Mortar over-against Turner's-hall in Philpot-lane, Fenchurch-street. All the said Brandy and Wines are to be seen to Morrow and Thursday from 7 to 1, and from 2 to 6, and all Friday till the Hour of Sale. To be Sold by T. Tomkins, Broker, in Seething-lane, between Tower-street and Crouched-Fryars.

MRs. Reeves, who formerly lived at the Wax Chandler's in Duke-street, is now removed to the Brazier's against the Cattle-Tavern in Drury-Lane, who makes all Sorts of Canvas Petticoats, Stays, Jumps, Waistcoats, Scarves, and all Sorts of quilted Work.

THese are to give Notice to all Contributors to the Office of Assurance on Marriages, in St. Martin's-Court near St. Martin's-Lane, who are in Arrear, That they pay in their Quarteridges due at Michaelmas next, according to the Articles of the said Office; where Attendance is daily given for issuing out of Policies, until the intended Number of 2000 is compleated.

MR. Fary's 16 s. Bohee Tea, made of the best Green Tea, by Men of real Judgment, thought very nigh equal to the best Foreign Bohee Tea; but sadly railed at by half skilled Traders in Tea; who at this Time of Day are ignorant that all Foreign Bohea, tho' there be White in it, by Infusion will change Colour, and is artificial, except Pecko, that will remain of the same Colour. Sold by himself only at the Bell in Gracechurch-street.

MRs. Ogle's Catalogue of Plate and other Goods, 20 l. for 6 d. that should have been drawn on the 25th Instant, will not be drawn till the 1st of November. It being not quire full, all People are desired to take out Tickets at Mr. Sedgwick's, Hair-Cutter, in the Strand; at Mr. Ralt's at the Black Lion in Shoomaker's Row near Aldgate; at Mr. Bumstead's, Furrier, at the White Lion and Crown in Walbrook; at Mr. Green's, a Hatter, at the Catherine Wheel Inn in the Borough of Southwark; at Joe's Coffee-house, Hatton-Garden; and at Mrs. Carter's, a Butterwoman, in Clare-Market by Clement's-Inn-Gate.

THE Sale of Goods at Mr. Sommer's, at the Crown and Four Rolls on the Ditch Side near Holborn Bridge, being near full, will be drawn in two Wheels on Thursday the 2d of November next at the Duke of Marlborough's-Head in Fleet-street. There being a small Quantity of Tickets left, all Persons are desired to come in Time and see the Goods, which are all new and fashionable, and have given great Satisfaction to all that have seen them. Tickets to be had at Mr. Sommer's, and the Duke of Marlborough's-Head aforesaid.

THE Sale of Goods that was appointed to be drawn the 26th Instant, is put off till Thursday Nov. 2. wherein are a stitch'd Gown and Petticoat, Lace, Shirts and Shifts, with many other Things of Value. There being some few Tickets still left; they may be had at the Golden Glove next the Horse-shoe Tavern in Princes street, Drury-lane; at Mrs. Ayre's, a Milliner, next the Black Raven in Fetter-Lane, Holborn; and at the Place of Drawing, which is the King's-Head, the Corner of Lambeth hill in Old-Fish-street, near Doctors-Commons. The Goods to be delivered Three Days after Drawing.

THE famous Cholick Water, so often published in the Gazette, well-known throughout Great Britain, for its speedy Relief in Cases of Wind in the Stomach; Wind Cholick, Vapours of both Kinds, Stitches, Pains in the Sides, Vomiting or Loosenes, and all other Indispositions and Weakness of Stomach and Bowels, immediately digesting any Thing that offends; is continued to be sold (as it hath been these 18 Years) at Old-Man's Coffee-house at Charing-cross, Richard's at Temple-bar, Alice's at the Parliament-house, and at Mr. Clark's, Stationer, in Birchin-lane, at 2 s. 6 d. a Bottle. 'Tis not purging, but a rich Cordial, pleasant to take at any Time.

PErfect Cure for the Asthma by an Elixir, (a pleasant and innocent Medicine) to be taken in Drops, which has done Wonders in that Case; but the Author's saying so being not so convincing as trying it will be, he desires you would for your own Sakes, when, if it does no Good, can do no Harm to the Body, nor much to the Purse in laying out 3 s. 6 d. which is the Price of a Bottle. To be had only at Mr. Lawrence's, a Toy-shop at the Griffin the Corner of Bucklersbury, Poultry.

Sold by *John Morphew* near *Stationers-Hall*; where Advertisements are taken in.